

GSM-R DSD Alarms During Coupling/Uncoupling Activities

Version 1.0

AUDIENCE:

Train Crew



Train
Maintenance
Staff



Signallers



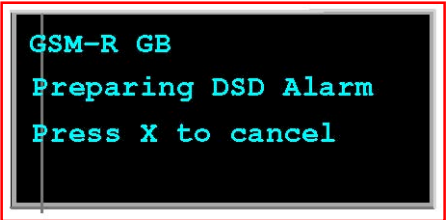
Control Office



This bulletin is aimed at persons engaged in train driving, signalling and train maintenance of GSM-R fitted vehicles, and is provided for information and action as appropriate.

The GSM-R radio has an alarm function linked to the Driver's Safety Device (DSD) which will alert the Signaller should the driver become incapacitated. Signallers receive a DSD Alarm as a high priority message on their GSM-R terminal, and are required by procedures to respond with an Urgent priority call back to the cab to ascertain that the Driver is ok or needs assistance.

Normally the GSM-R alarm will start 'preparing to send' 30s after the release of the DSD when the master switch is in Forward or Reverse. The GSM-R screen will display the message shown adjacent for a further 30s, along with a distinctive tone, before the DSD Alarm is sent to the Signaller.



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GSM-R GB  
Preparing DSD Alarm  
Press X to cancel
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Experience with some GSM-R fitted multiple units has shown that the 'DSD Alarm' may be triggered during or after coupling activities, if the coupling process has not established the required feeds to the GSM-R DSD interface circuits.

Drivers, Shunt Drivers, Train Preparers etc. should be alert to the possibility of the DSD alarm being triggered either during the coupling process or on a set that has recently been uncoupled.

If the DSD Alarm should enter the preparing phase as shown above, then the Driver should press the Cancel ('X') key immediately to prevent the DSD Alarm from being sent to the Signaller. It should be noted that pressing the DSD pedal may not cancel the DSD Alarm preparing phase (as it would do normally), and hence the 'X' button should be used.

Technical solutions are being examined on fleets that might exhibit this behaviour.